

**BOARD FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS**

2535 CAPITOL OAKS DRIVE, SUITE 300A, SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-2926

TELEPHONE: (916) 263-2113

FAX: (916) 263-2099

E-mail: [geology@dca.ca.gov](mailto:geology@dca.ca.gov)Website: [www.geology.ca.gov](http://www.geology.ca.gov)**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)****July 28, 2006****Hilton Los Angeles Airport****5711 West Century Blvd.****Los Angeles, CA 90045****1. Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call to Establish Quorum**

Mr. Joe Mello, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Joe Mello, Acting Chair

Seena Hoose

David Bloom

Thomas Sheahan

Charles Nestle

Tom Crosby

Cecilia Yu (ex-officio)

Joe Mello established that a quorum was present.

Others in Attendance:

Paul Sweeney, Executive Officer

George Dunfield, Enforcement Manager

Trinda Bedrossian

(Buzz) Howard Spellman

Joe Mello distributed a Draft Agenda and asked for modifications or additions. No modifications or additions were made.

**2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

There was no Public Comment; however, the three newest TAC members (David Bloom, Charles Nestle and Tom Sheahan) gave a brief summary of their background and experience and were welcomed to the Committee.

**3. Approval of minutes from May 5, 2006 TAC meeting**

The committee reviewed copies of the draft minutes. Seena Hoose suggested that the minutes reflect the fact that the Fields of Expertise discussion in Agenda Item No. 11

*The Mission of the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists is to Continuously Enhance the Quality, Significance, and Availability of Geological and Geophysical Services Offered to the People of California*

includes the fact that the history of this issue dates back to the 1970's. Seena Hoose made a motion to approve the minutes with Ms. Hoose's amendment. Tom Crosby seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved (Sheahan and Bloom abstain).

#### **4. Report on Board meeting of May 19, 2006**

Mr. Sweeney gave a report on the Board Meeting of May 19, 2006. He handed out the draft regulations that will have their Public Hearing for potential adoption on August 11, 2006 in Los Angeles regarding amendments to the Code of Professional Standards. Mr. Sweeney also informed the TAC about the subcommittees that were created at the last Board Meeting to address residence time issues for Board publications, minutes, agendas and other items that are posted on the Board's website ([www.geology.ca.gov](http://www.geology.ca.gov)). Another subcommittee was established to revise the Board's Strategic Plan and the Board Member Guidelines and Procedures Manual. These subcommittees are made up of two Board Members each.

The Board also directed Board staff to review and, if necessary, prepare a recommendation to the Board for managing the "section 7847 – Licensure without Examination" applications. In response, Mr. Dunfield gave a presentation on the new form and process that will be presented to the Board at their next meeting for potential approval. There was significant discussion on the process of licensure by out-of-state licensees amongst those present. A motion was made by Mr. Crosby and seconded by Mr. Nestle, amended by Mr. Sheahan and amended again in response to a suggestion from a member of the public, Trinda Bedrossian. Mr. Crosby and Mr. Nestle concurred with the amendments which resulted in the motion to recommend to the Board that the TAC requested to work with Board staff on the 7847 application process and criteria and to work in conjunction with the Examination Committee, if necessary, in developing a process for reviewing and recommending to the Board approval/rejection of 7847 licensure candidates; and to make any recommendations for any legislative changes that may be necessary. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **5. Election of TAC Chair and Vice-Chair for Fiscal Year 2006-07**

Joe Mello called for nominations to the position of TAC Chair. After some discussion, Tom Sheahan moved to nominate Joe Mello for election to TAC Chair, seconded by David Bloom. Joe Mello was elected TAC Chair by unanimous vote.

Joe Mello called for nominations to the position of TAC Vice-Chair. After some discussion, Tom Sheahan moved to nominate Tom Crosby for election to TAC Vice-Chair, seconded by David Bloom. There being no other nominations, Joe Mello closed the nominations and called for a vote. Tom Crosby was elected Vice-Chair by a unanimous vote.

#### **6. Discussion of Geomorphology Fact Sheet for presentation to the Board**

Joe Mello recommended that because Kris Vyverberg was not present and this Agenda Item was her assignment, the TAC should defer any action until the next TAC meeting. The other members of the Committee agreed.

Some background information was provided by Seena Hoose, Trinda Bedrossian, Paul Sweeney and George Dunfield about how this issue came to the TAC for the benefit of the

new TAC members. The discussion centered on when professional geologic licensure should 'kick in' when geomorphological work was being performed. It was made clear that the Board was not pursuing a specialty license in geomorphology, similar to the Title Act licenses that the Board currently has (Certified Engineering Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist).

## **7. Discussion of Continuing Education requirements for Professional Geologists**

Joe Mello advised the new TAC members that, at the last Board meeting, the TAC Chair presented the findings that the TAC felt that Continuing Education (CE) should become a requirement for continued licensure as a Professional Geologist. The Board agreed with the recommendation and directed the TAC to create the necessary background, composition and matrix of what a CE program should look like. After receiving this back from the TAC, the Board could then pursue the legislative change(s) required to implement CE.

The concept of CE was discussed with several key points being highlighted:

- The requirements of what is an acceptable form of CE need to be well-defined,
- Other states' CE requirements should be strongly considered as models,
- Professional society/membership/licensee support for CE is very important,
- The benefits of CE to the profession, the public, the Administration and the Legislature needs to be explained to all appropriate stakeholders,
- TAC needs to be aware of time and money constraints on the licensees and the Board.

The following assignments were made by Joe Mello for reporting on at the next TAC meeting in November:

- Determine why one state eliminated CE requirements? – Seena Hoose
- Canvass the six states that license geologists that require CE for their regulatory history, background and current requirements – Tom Crosby
- Outline what a CE program might look like – David Bloom and Charles Nestle
- Acquire and provide relevant California Bar Association information concerning the CE program for lawyers in California – Tom Sheahan

Chair Mello requested that these items be submitted to Executive Officer Sweeney about a month before the next TAC meeting so that they can be included in the TAC packet.

## **8. Technical Advisory Committee Chair's report, announcements, homework assignments and scheduling of Agenda items for November 3, 2006 TAC meeting**

Assignments were addressed in Agenda Item #7. After some discussion about changing the date of the next TAC meeting, Chair Joe Mello announced that the next TAC meeting would be on Friday, November 3, 2006 in Sacramento.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

---

**Joe Mello, Committee Chair**

**Date Approved: January 26, 2007**